

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A valve for the drop application of a liquid stored in a container comprising a take-up body (22) which has a discharge passage for the liquid, with and a single elastically deformable membrane (24) being which is closed at its front end arranged in the take-up body (22) and sealingly closing the discharge passage (34), the take-up body having an aeration passage extending through the take-up body for a follow-up air flow, the membrane also sealingly closing the aeration passage.

Claim 2 (currently amended): A valve in accordance with claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the front end of the membrane (24) is closed at its front end and is in particular has an arched in dome-shape.

Claim 3 (currently amended): A valve in accordance with claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the front end of the membrane (24) projects out of the take-up body (22).

Claim 4 (currently amended): A valve in accordance with claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the membrane (24) is made as a hollow body open at one end.

Claim 5 (currently amended): A valve in accordance with claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ including a support element (26), which pre-stresses the membrane (24) in the axial direction[[,]] and is arranged in ~~the~~ an interior of the membrane.

Claim 6 (currently amended): A valve in accordance with claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ including a support element (26), provided in the interior of the membrane and which is in engagement with the membrane (24) via at least one latching means (50), ~~is provided in the interior of the membrane (24).~~

Claim 7 (currently amended): A valve in accordance with claim 1, echaracterized ~~in that~~ including a support element (26), which is provided for the membrane is in engagement with the take-up body (22) via at least one latching means (46), ~~is provided for the membrane (24).~~

Claim 8 (currently amended): A valve in accordance with claim 1, echaracterized ~~in that~~ including a support body (26) ~~is provided for the membrane (24) and extends~~ extending from beneath an aeration passage (32) ~~provided in the take-up body (22) up to and into the a~~ region of the upper end (48) of the membrane (24).

Claim 9 (currently amended): A valve in accordance with claim 1, echaracterized ~~in that~~ including a support body (26) for the membrane (24) ~~is provided which extends and~~ extending over ~~the a~~ total inner cross-section of the take-up body (22) at its lower end and has having at least one throughflow opening (60) ~~in this region~~ a vicinity of the lower end.

Claim 10 (currently amended): A valve in accordance with claim 1, echaracterized ~~in that~~ including a support body and wherein a ring passage is provided between a the support body (26) and the membrane (24).

Claim 11 (currently amended): A valve in accordance with claim 1, echaracterized ~~in that a ring passage (52, 56) is provided between~~ wherein the take-up body (22) and the membrane (24) define a ring passage between them.

Claim 12 (currently amended): A valve in accordance with claim 10, echaracterized ~~in that a~~ including first and second ring passage (52, 56) ~~is provided~~ passages between the take-up body (22) and the membrane (24); and ~~in that~~ at least one overflow passage (58) ~~is provided in the membrane and connects~~ connecting the ~~two~~ first and second ring passages to one another.

Claim 13 (currently amended): A valve in accordance with claim 1, ~~eharaeterized in that~~ wherein the membrane (24) and the take-up body (22) sealingly contact one another along a contact section (42) ~~which is in particular made~~ configured as a paraboloid of revolution.

Claim 14 (currently amended): A valve in accordance with claim 13, ~~eharaeterized in that~~ wherein a ring passage (52) is provided at ~~the~~ a start of the contact section (42) and an outflow passage (44) is provided at ~~the~~ an end of the contact section (42).

Claim 15 (currently amended): A valve in accordance with claim 1, ~~eharaeterized in that the take-up body (22) has an aeration passage (32) for a follow-up air flow, with the membrane (24) also sealingly closing the aeration passage (32), and with~~ including a sterile filter (28) ~~in particular being provided in the take-up body (22) in front of the orifice of the aeration passage (32).~~

Claim 16 (currently amended): A valve in accordance with claim 1, ~~eharaeterized in that it is~~ comprising only ~~made up of~~ three functional components, namely ~~[[of]]~~ the take-up body (22), ~~[[of]]~~ the membrane (24) and ~~of the~~ a support body (26).

Claim 17 (currently amended): A dropper system comprising a container (10) and a valve (20) ~~for the drop application of a liquid stored in a container comprising a take-up body (22) which has a discharge passage for the liquid, with a single elastically deformable membrane (24) being arranged in the take-up body (22) and sealingly closing the discharge passage (34), said valve sealingly closing the container (10)~~ in accordance with claim 1.

Claim 18 (canceled)